

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03
PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-07 TRSE-00
/070 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:KKURZE/LHEICHLER/NLEDSKY:BJR
APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN
S:MR. TWADDELL
P:DTICE
EUR/SE:NLEDSKY
S/S- MR. BRIDGES

-----161916Z 065573 /61

P R 161824Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058444

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GW, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS: DISCUSSIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT WITH
BRANDT AND EHMKE, MARCH 7-9

REF: (A) BONN 3580; (B) BONN 4256

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH SECRETARY MARCH 7, BRANDT SAID
THAT HE EXPECTED TO RECEIVE LETTER FROM MAKARIOS ASKING
FOR A GERMAN SHOW OF INTEREST IN A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT.
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BRANDT ADDED THAT HE SAW LITTLE CHANCE FOR PROGRESS BEFORE
THE TURKISH ELECTIONS. HE EMPHASIZED THAT HE WOULD NOT
WANT TO DO ANYTHING THAT MIGHT DISTURB CURRENT US EFFORTS
TO FIND A SOLUTION.

2. IN DISCUSSION WITH UNDER SECRETARY HABIB ON MARCH 9,
EHMKE WARNED AGAINST TYING A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT TO AEGEAN

PROBLEM, WHICH HE STRESSED WERE NOT NECESSARILY RELATED. EHMKE CHARACTERIZED THE QUESTION OF CYPRUS GUARANTEES AS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE AND URGED THAT ISSUE BE CLARIFIED SOON; OTHERWISE MAKARIOS AND DENKTASH WOULD LOOK FOR PROPOSALS FROM THIRD PARTIES WHO WOULD THEN BE EXPECTED TO GUARANTEE A CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. CONCERNING TERRITORY, EHMKE FELT DISCUSSING PERCENTAGES WOULD NOT ADVANCE MATTER AND THAT WHAT WAS NEEDED WAS DETAILED CONSIDERATION OF

ACTUAL LINES ON THE GROUND.

3. IN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN, MARCH 8, EHMKE CONTENDED HE AND BRANDT HAD NO INTENTION OF BUTTING INTO EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE CYPRUS PROBLEM, BUT THEY FELT THAT MAKARIOS WILL EVENTUALLY WANT A THIRD PARTY PROPOSAL OR SOME FORM OF THIRD PARTY (WHICH COULD INCLUDE BRANDT/EHMKE) INVOLVEMENT. THAT IS WHY THEY HAD BEEN DISCUSSING CYPRUS NOT ONLY ON THE ISLAND BUT ALSO WITH GOOD FRIENDS IN GREECE (PRIMARILY EHMKE'S) AND TURKEY (BRANDT WITH ECEVIT PRIMARILY, BUT ALSO DEMIREL). IN TERMS OF US INVOLVEMENT, EHMKE SUGGESTED THE US CONSIDER BEING ONE OF THE GUARANTORS OF ANY NEW CYPRUS ARRANGEMENT. HARTMAN SIDESTEPED POINT, AND SUGGESTED THAT DISCUSSION OF "GUARANTEES" SHOULD BE TACKLED ONLY AFTER PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE IN AREAS OF TERRITORY AND CONSTITUTION.

4. EHMKE SAID HE HAD ADVISED BRANDT NOT TO ACCEPT MAKARIOS' INVITATION TO VISIT ISLAND IN LATE MARCH AND CLEARLY LEFT THE IMPRESSION BRANDT WILL NOT GO. HE
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AGREED TO SEE TO IT THAT ANY NEW INFORMATION HE AND BRANDT DEVELOPED ON CYPRUS BE PASSED TO HARTMAN.

5. HARTMAN REVIEWED RESULTS OF RECENT CLIFFORD MISSION TO EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND SAID WE WERE CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC THAT PROGRESS COULD BE MADE AT INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN VIENNA WHICH BEGIN ON MARCH 31. A NEGOTIATING PROCESS SEEMS TO BE DEVELOPING. TWO MEETINGS BETWEEN DENKTASH AND MAKARIOS HAD TAKEN PLACE, A SET OF PRINCIPLES HAD BEEN DEVELOPED AS A GUIDE TO NEGOTIATORS, AND CLIFFORD HAD WON ASSURANCES FROM THE PARTIES THAT CONCRETE PROPOSALS WOULD BE PLACED ON THE TABLE IN VIENNA. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVEMENT BY EUROPEANS AT THIS POINT MIGHT RETARD RATHER THAN ADVANCE PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS. HARTMAN SUGGESTED THAT WE ALL WAIT TO SEE WHAT TRANSPIRES AT VIENNA BEFORE DECIDING WHAT ADDITIONAL U.S. OR EUROPEAN INITIATIVES MIGHT BE WARRANTED. EHMKE EXPRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THIS POSITION, AND AGREED THAT HE AND BRANDT WOULD DO NOTHING FOR THE MOMENT, AND

WOULD TELL US BEFORE TAKING ANY FURTHER ACTION.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS, POPULAR SUPPORT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE058444
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KKURZE/LHEICHLER/NLEDSKY:BJR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770090-0659
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770354/aaaabveo.tel
Line Count: 118
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 56e180b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BONN 3580, 77 BONN 4256
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3091856
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CYPRUS: DISCUSSIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT WITH BRANDT AND EHMKE, MARCH 7-9
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, GE, CY, US, (EHMKE, HORST), (HARTMAN, ARTHUR A)
To: BONN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/56e180b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009